AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 27, 2007

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2007—08 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 940

Introduced by Assembly Member Krekorian

February 22, 2007

An act to add and repeal Section 25527 of the Public Resources Code, relating to energy.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 940, as amended, Krekorian. Energy: solar energy.

Existing law-declares the policy of this state to promote all feasible means of energy and all feasible uses of alternative energy expresses the intent of the Legislature, in establishing the Renewable Energy Resources Program, to increase by 2010 the amount of electricity generated per year from eligible renewable energy resources to an amount that equals at least 20% of the total electricity sold to retail customers in California per year.

This bill would declare the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to promote solar energy usage in this state require the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission to submit to the Legislature, on or before July 1, 2008, a report containing recommendations for streamlining the siting and permitting of specified solar energy facilities, and of related transmission facilities.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no yes. State-mandated local program: no.

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The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

- (a) In 2002, the state established the Renewable Portfolio Standard Program with the goal of increasing by 2010 the percentage of renewable energy in the state's energy supply to 20 percent.
- (b) The benefits of renewable energy are numerous. It makes use of secure, indigenous and sustainable natural resources, helps to keep our air clean, and has the ability to reduce the production of carbon dioxide, a leading contributor of global climate change.
- (c) Renewable energy also helps to create jobs for Californians, promotes economic development, establishes the state as a world leader and exporter of renewable power technologies, and reduces dependence on imported oil.
- (d) The state recognizes the urgent need to slow climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels as set forth in the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006.
- (e) Solar energy is one of California's most abundant renewable resources but is also the least utilized for energy production.
- (f) In order to meet the goals of the renewable portfolio standard, California should adopt a siting and permitting process for the generation and transmission of renewable energy, including solar.
- (g) It is the intent of the Legislature to enact policies that help move the state toward a cleaner energy future while ensuring adequate supplies to meet demands.
- SEC. 2. Section 25527 is added to the Public Resources Code, to read:
- 25527. (a) On or before July 1, 2008, the commission shall submit to the Legislature a report containing recommendations that would streamline the siting and permitting of solar energy facilities, and of related transmission facilities.
- (b) For the purposes of this section, "solar energy facility" means a facility that has the primary purpose of providing for the collection and distribution of solar energy for the generation of electricity for consumer use.

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- (c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2009, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2009, deletes or extends that date.
- 4 SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact 5 legislation to promote solar energy usage in this state.

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